

B9 is transparent to the associated remote device; and

sending, during the certain period, data from the associated remote device over the upstream channel, such that the upstream channel is transparent to the associated remote device, [an] said amount of the sent data being governed by the respective signal.

38/36. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>36</sup>~~61~~ wherein the certain period for [a] said each remote interface corresponds to a time between sending a credit to [the] said each remote interface and receiving another signal indicating that the remote device has completed a set of transmissions.

B10 39/36. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>36</sup>~~61~~ wherein the certain period of each remote interface is different from the certain period of [the other] another of said plurality of remote interfaces.

40/36. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>36</sup>~~61~~ wherein the certain period of [a] said each remote interface is mutually exclusive of the certain period of [the other] another of said plurality of remote interfaces.

#### REMARKS

The claims have been amended to more distinctly point out applicants' invention in view of the outstanding Office Action dated June 9, 1999. Favorable reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

In response to the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, applicants have noted the objections stated therein. Accordingly, applicants will make the necessary corrections when formal drawings are filed after allowance of the application.

In response to the objection to the disclosure, applicants have also amended the specification, as indicated above, to address the Examiner's objections. Applicants now believe that this matter is moot.

Applicants have canceled claim 21 to eliminate all issues with respect to it.

In re USSN 09/212,857

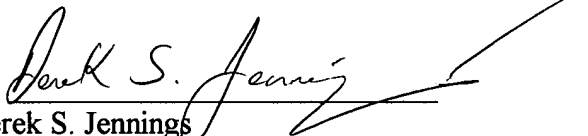
In response to the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 21, 26 - 65, applicants are filing herewith a terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot.

The references cited of interest but not relied upon have been noted, along with the implication that these references are not deemed sufficiently pertinent by the PTO to warrant their application against the claims.

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance and the application should be passed to issue as soon as possible. Favorable consideration is thus respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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